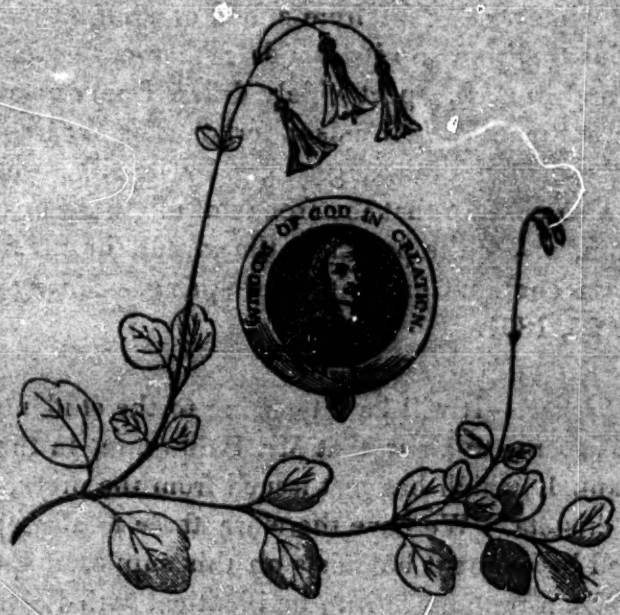
No. CXXII. JULY, MDCCCLI. Price 1s.

THE

PHYTOLOGIST:

A BOTANICAL JOURNAL.



TANTUS AMOR FLORUM.

LONDON;

JOHN VAN VOORST, PATERNOSTER ROW.

R. NEWMAN, PRINTER, 9, DEVONSHIRE STREET, BISHOPSGATE.

Botanical Notes and Queries.

Lastrea uliginosa.—Having paid some attention to Lastrea uliginosa, both wild and cultivated, I unhesitatingly state that it is a species totally distinct from L. cristata; and it is a matter of surprise to me how any botanist can consider these two ferns identical, or indeed confound L. cristata with any other British species. If uliginosa is only a variety, it must be of L. spinosa, but I am strongly inclined to consider it a good species: it grows plentifully around the margins of ponds in the forest, among the sallows; and it might at first be supposed that its peculiar, slender, drawn-up appearance arose from the situation, but this is not the case; it preserves the same characters in my garden, planted in an open border, and its appearance is widely different from a bed of spinosa planted by its side. It begins to throw up its fronds rather earlier in the spring than spinosa, and in this respect widely differs from cristata. On the 1st of the present month the fronds of cristata had scarcely began to move, while those of uliginosa, growing by its side, were two feet high. I may also observe that the fronds of uliginosa begin to decay early in autumn, and quite perish in the winter, in our forest, while those of spinosa continue green till the spring.—*Henry Doubleday, Epping, June* 23, 1851.

Lastrea uliginosa.—It will be interesting to the students and cultivators of British ferns to know that Mr. Babington, in the third edition of his Manual, which has just issued from the press, places this fern under L. cristata. We have therefore three totally opposed opinions published by eminent botanists on this supposed species.

Bree and Wilson pronounce it to be identical with Lastrea spinosa, *Newm.*

Hooker and Arnott declare it to be the type of Aspidium spinulosum, *Willd.*

Moore and Babington declare it to be L. cristata.

Perhaps there are not six botanists in the kingdom who would be esteemed more competent judges than those named above: they are our leaders, our teachers, our *docteurs-es-sciences.* "Who shall decide when doctors disagree?" I shall still feel obliged by the free expression of opinions as to the distinctness or otherwise of this fern. —*Edward Newman.*

Botanical Notes and Queries (Continued).

Hybrid Narcissus.—In the group of varieties figured in illustration of the paper on Narcissi (see p. 218) there is one named Leedsii, which seems exactly intermediate between Narcissus poeticus and N. Pseudo-narcissus. By a parity of reasoning with that employed in the case of the Primulæ, the production of this hybrid would prove the identity of these two Narcissi as a species, a conclusion which I think botanists will not be hasty to adopt.—*Edward Newman.*

Adulteration of Tea.—The adulteration of coffee has lately proved a prolific source of interest to the British public. How much more interesting to *British* botanists it would be to learn what *British* herbs are employed in the manufacture of tea. It is said that the weight annually imported of real tea bears but a very small proportion to that retailed under the name. The inquiry is highly interesting, not only in a statistical and economical but also in a botanical view.—*Id.*

Winter Garden on the present site of Smithfield Market.—I have so many applications to explain my views on this subject, that I have concluded to publish them in the August number of the 'Phytologist.' In the mean time any hints will be thankfully received.—*Id.*

Gratuitous Distribution of the 'Phytologist.'

As the object of this undertaking is rather the diffusion of correct information, as resulting from the combined labours of British Botanists, than the profit arising from the sale, the Editor begs to announce that he will be happy to supply the 'Phytologist' *gratuitously*, in monthly numbers, to any Naturalist residing beyond the limits of the United Kingdom. The only condition he requires, is that the recipient furnish him with the mode of supplying it free of all cost to himself beyond the simple donation of the work. By this arrangement, Botanists resident in other countries will receive intelligence of what is doing in this country, as soon as possible after the day of publication, and observers and describers in this country will be assured of the prompt and universal diffusion of the result of their observations. The Editor most earnestly invites the attention of Botanists in this country to the extension of this free list, and will feel particularly obliged by their assistance and co-operation.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
The Analytical Sanitary Commission - - - -	165
Extracts from the 'Proceedings of the Linnean Society' -	200
Letter from Dr. Drummond, in reference to the Observations on his views of the Linnean and Natural Systems of Botany, contained in the Notice of the Sixth Edition of the 'British Flora,' (Phytol. iv. 170) - - - - -	211
Notice of the 'Botanical Gazette,' No. 30, June, 1851 - -	212
Notice of the 'Naturalist,' No. 4, June, 1851 - - -	213
Notice of the 'Annals and Magazine of Natural History,' No. 42, June, 1851 - - - - - -	214
Notice of 'Hooker's Journal of Botany and Kew Garden Miscellany,' No. 30, June, 1851 - - - -	214
Notice of 'The Gardener's Magazine of Botany,' No. 17, June, 1851 - - - - - - -	216
Botanical Society of London - - - - -	220
Botanical Society of Edinburgh - - - -	220

WM. FOGGITT begs respectfully to invite the attention of those desirous of forming Herbaria to his beautifully-prepared and scientifically-named SPECIMENS of BRITISH PLANTS, which he offers for sale at 5s. per hundred. Desiderata or Selected Specimens 8s. per hundred. Any additional information will be given and illustrated specimens forwarded, gratis, on application.

Market Place, Thirsk,
June 28, 1851.

BENTALL'S BOTANICAL DRYING PAPER.—This is the only paper that perfectly absorbs the moisture without injuring the colour of the specimens. It is strongly recommended for drying Flowering Plants, Ferns, Mosses, and Sea-weeds by Sir W. J. Hooker, Dr. Lindley, Mr. Babington, and all our botanical writers. The following are the prices for 1851:—

10 inches	by	10	when folded,	15s.	per ream,	1s. 0d.	per quire.
18	"	11	"	18s.	"	1s. 2d.	"
20	"	12	"	21s.	"	1s. 4d.	"
20	"	16	"	28s.	"	1s. 8d.	"

It is particularly requested that orders (accompanied by clear directions as to the mode of conveyance, and a Post-office Order or Stamps to the amount) be sent direct to the Agent, EDWARD NEWMAN, 9, Devonshire Street, Bishopsgate.

EDWARD NEWMAN, PRINTER, 9, DEVONSHIRE STREET, BISHOPSGATE.